

**DC**  
**UNIVERSE**  
45 | RATED T TEEN  
DCCOMICS.COM  


**THE BLEEDING EDGE**

# NIGHTWING

WHO OR  
WHAT IS...  
**WYRM?**

PERCY  
MOONEYHAM  
JANSON  
FILARDI





# TITANS

NIGHTWING, DONNA TROY, RAVEN,  
STEEL, BEAST BOY AND MISS MARTIAN!

CAN THEY SAVE THE WORLD  
FROM NEW SUPER-POWERED WEAPONS  
OF MASS DESTRUCTION?

#23



Written by

**DAN ABNETT**

Art by

**BRANDON PETERSON**

JULY

3  
G  
I  
S  
U  
E  
J  
U  
L  
Y

TM & © DC Comics.





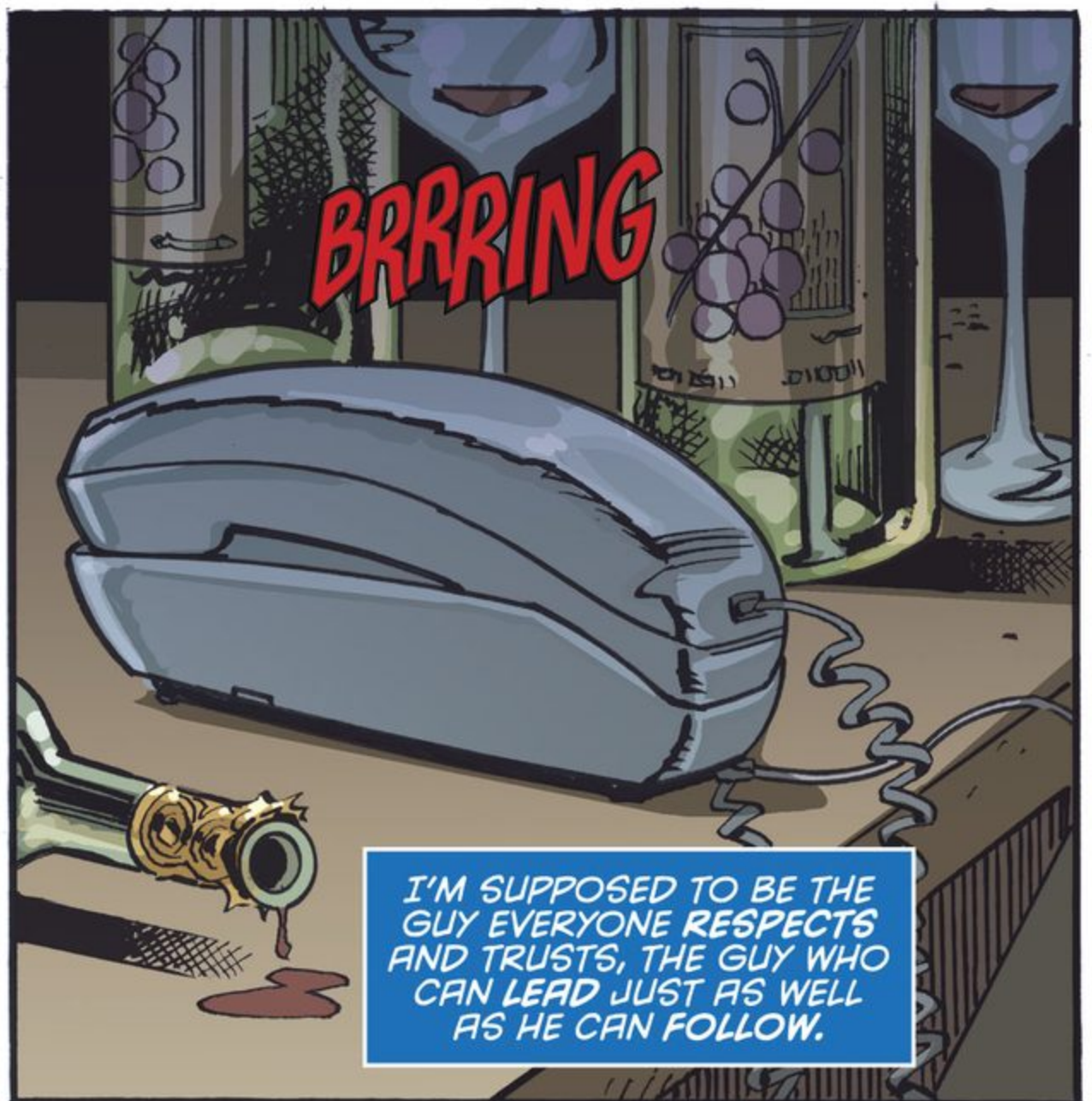
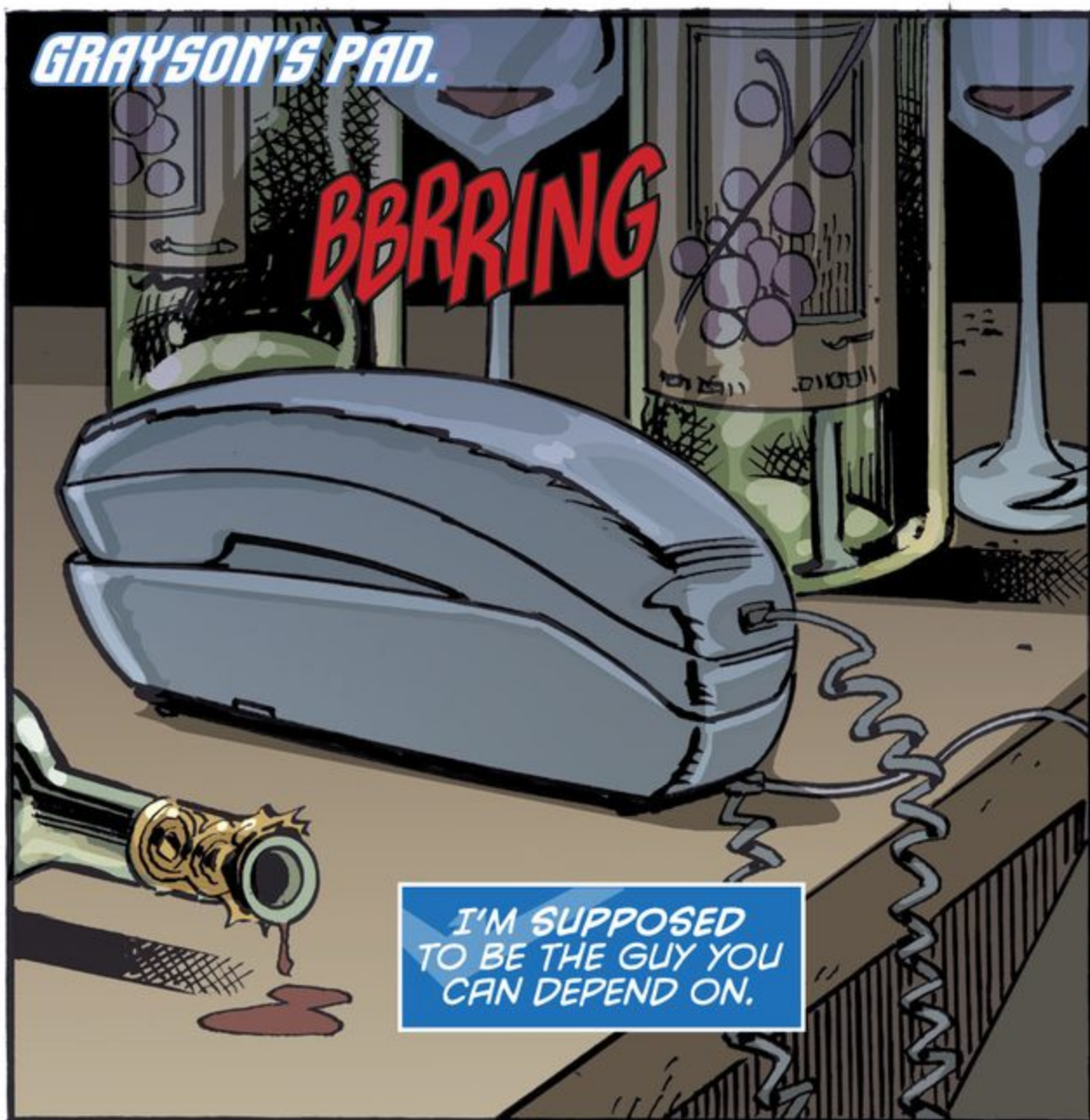
**NIGHTWING 45**

PERCY • MOONEYHAM • JANSON • FILARDI

RATED T TEEN  
DCCOMICS.COM

JRJR  
18







**BABS?!**

WHAT ARE...?  
WHEN DID...?  
DID WE...?

KNOW WHAT  
THE BEST ANTIDOTE IS  
FOR A SOUL-CRUSHING  
*HANGOVER*, DICK?  
FEWER YELLY  
QUESTIONS.

HELLO?  
MR. GRAYSON--

...  
SORRY,  
WILLEM. WHAT  
WERE YOU  
SAYING?

WE  
STILL ON  
FOR TODAY'S  
SESSION? I'M  
AT THE  
DOCKS--

AND I'M  
OBVIOUSLY NOT!  
I'M SO DAMN  
SORRY.

I'LL  
BE RIGHT  
THERE.

**CHING**

DON'T GO.

GOT TO.

STAY.  
WHO'S GOING TO  
BRING ME *ASPIRIN*?  
I WANT *ALL* OF THE  
ASPIRIN.





BABS...  
THERE'S A BIG  
BLACK *NOTHING*  
IN MY HEAD.

IT'S LIKE  
SOMEONE  
SCRAPED OUT  
A SECTION OF  
MY BRAIN.



THAT'S  
WHAT HAPPENS  
WHEN YOU DRINK  
AN UNREASONABLE  
AMOUNT OF  
*WINE.*

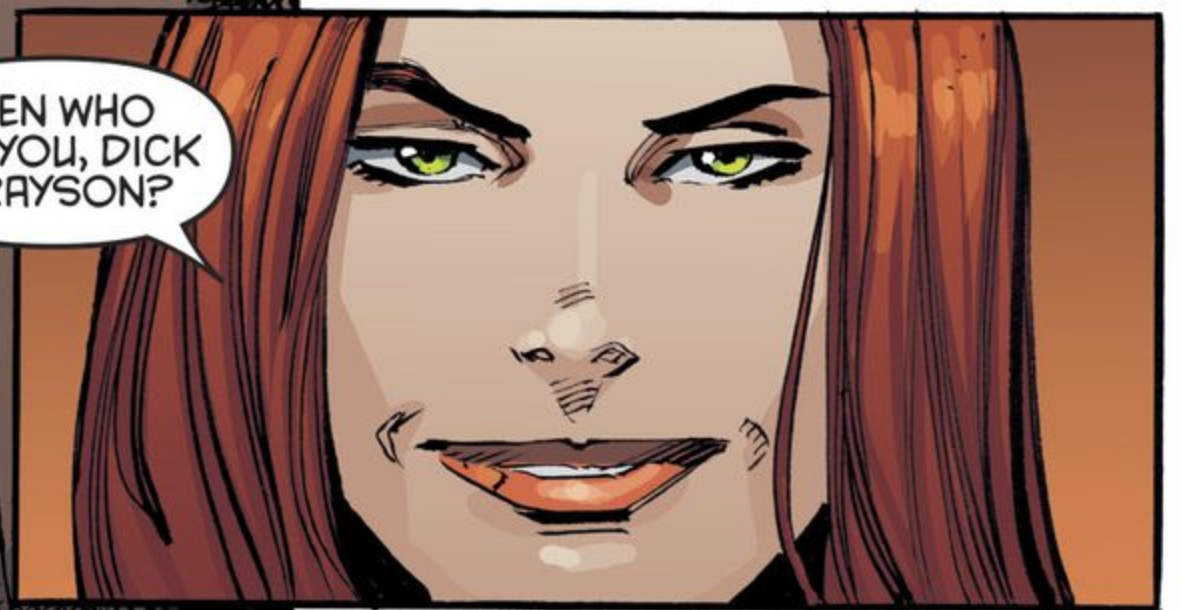


I DON'T  
KNOW WHETHER TO  
SAY *I'M SORRY...*OR  
*THANK YOU...*OR WHAT?  
I'M KIND OF FREAKING  
OUT RIGHT NOW,  
BABS.

WE  
OBVIOUSLY NEED  
TO TALK THIS OUT,  
BUT I'M LATE FOR AN  
APPOINTMENT WITH  
A CLIENT.

THIS...  
THIS IS *NOT*  
WHO I AM...

LATER.



THEN WHO  
ARE YOU, DICK  
GRAYSON?



HURRY  
HOME. I'LL BE  
WAITING TO  
FIND OUT.



A FEW MONTHS AGO,  
I FELT LIKE I WAS  
LOSING MY FOCUS.

THERE WERE TOO MANY  
ALERTS TEARING AWAY  
AT MY ATTENTION. TOO  
MANY SCREENS BURNING  
THEIR AFTERIMAGE  
INTO MY EYES.

I FELT JITTERY, FRIED,  
SPACED-OUT. SO I TOOK  
A CUE FROM NIGHTWING  
AND APPLIED IT TO  
DICK GRAYSON.

BATMAN IS A WALKING  
SWISS ARMY KNIFE OF  
GIZMOS, BUT I'VE STUCK  
WITH MY BATONS AND  
BEEN BETTER FOR IT.

I DITCHED THE MP3s AND  
PICKED UP A TURNTABLE.  
I PUT THE CELL PHONE IN  
A DRAWER AND INSTALLED  
A LANDLINE.

BUT NOW...THAT  
FEELING IS BACK.  
TIMES TEN. TIMES A  
HUNDRED AND TEN.

5%

NEURAL DOWNLOAD

LIKE MY NERVES  
ARE COOKED. LIKE MY  
BRAIN IS A SEETHING  
BALL OF WASPS.

I MEAN...BABS? AS IN BABS?  
I DON'T ACCIDENTALLY FALL  
INTO BED WITH ANYONE, BUT  
ESPECIALLY NOT HER. OUR LIVES  
ARE TOO COMPLICATED FOR  
EITHER OF US TO BELIEVE IN  
SOUL MATES BUT...SHE'S CLOSE.

MAYBE IT'S JUST AN  
OFF DAY. MAYBE IT'S  
THE WORLD'S WORST  
HANGOVER. OR MAYBE...

# THE BLEEDING EDGE

## PART 2

BENJAMIN PERCY Writer CHRIS MOONEYHAM Artist

KLAUS JANSON Inks Pgs 1-15 NICK FILARDI Colors

CARLOS M. MANGUAL Letters DECLAN SHALVEY & JORDIE BELLAIRE Cover

JOHN ROMITA JR., DANNY MIKI and TOMEU MOREY Variant Cover

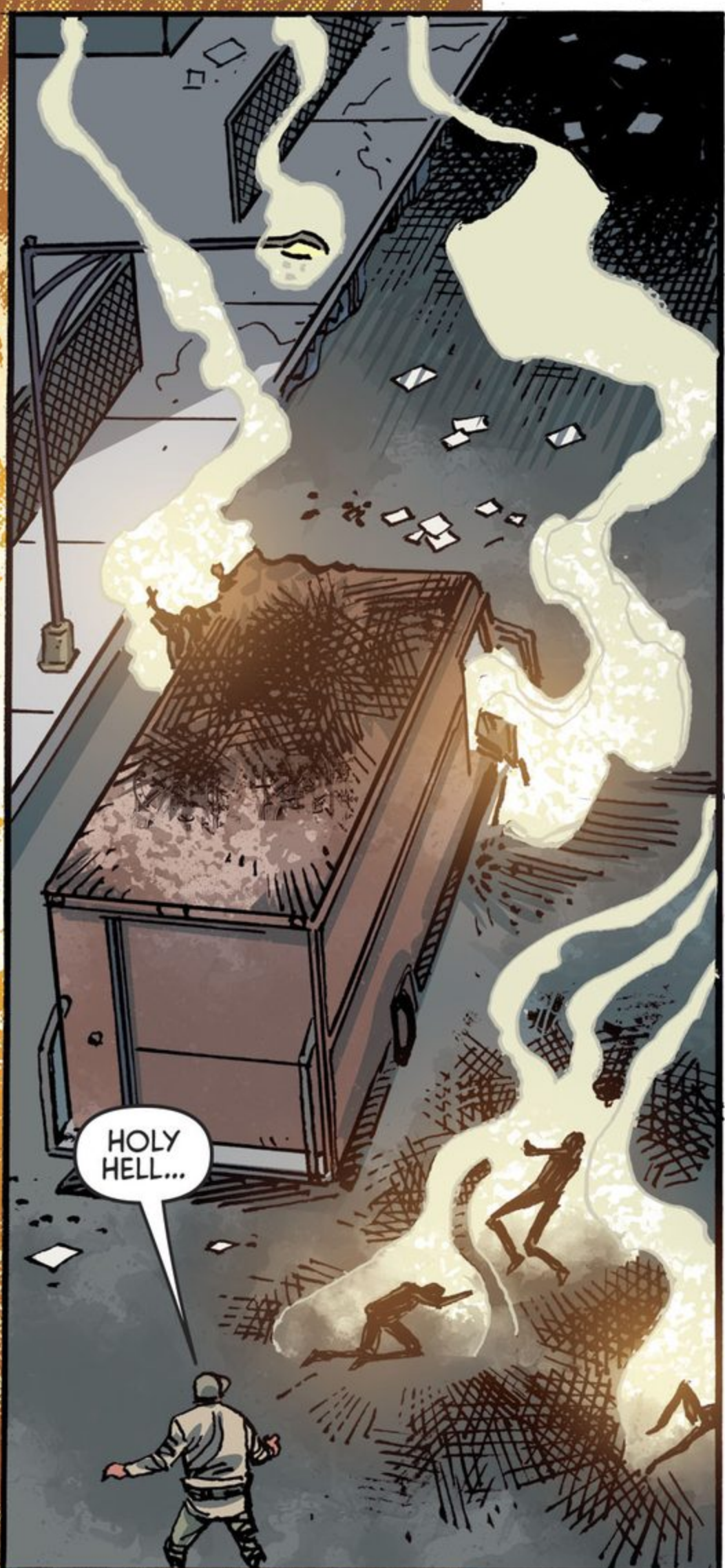
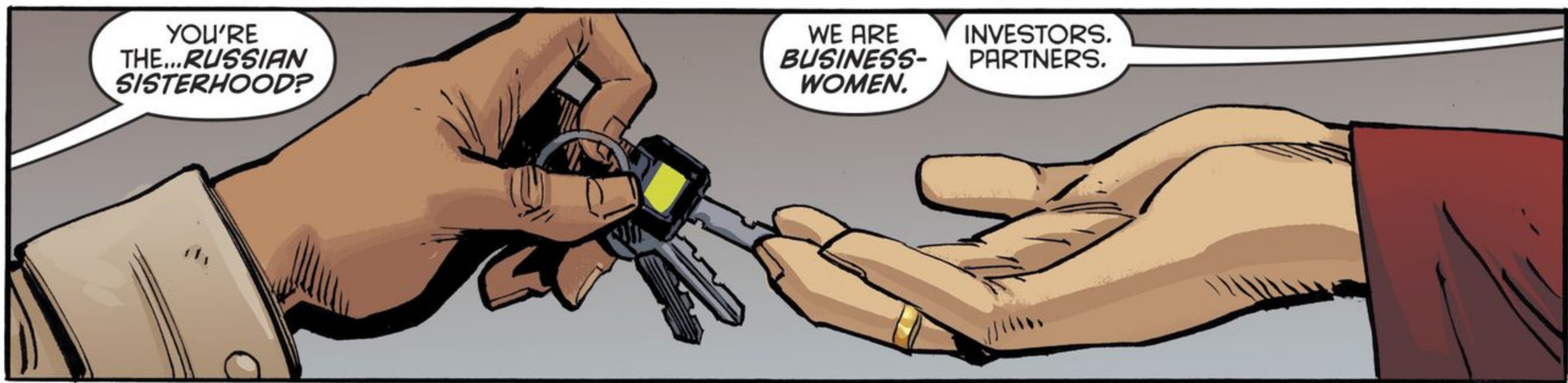
DAVE WIELGOSZ Asst. Editor KATIE KUBERT Editor JAMIE S. RICH Group Editor

Nightwing Created by MARV WOLFMAN & GEORGE PÉREZ











MEANWHILE...

DAMN,  
DAMN,  
DAMN.

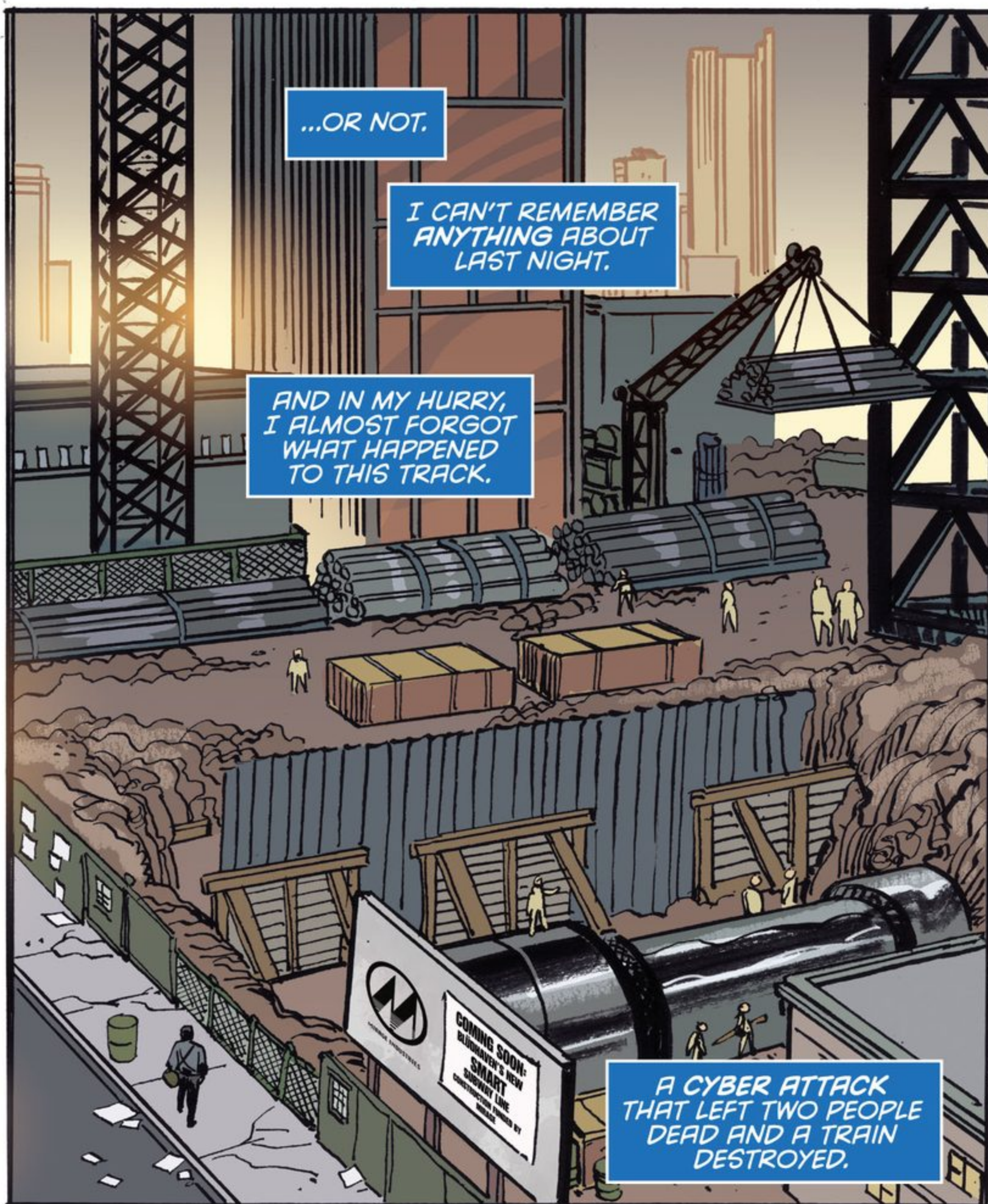
IF I HURRY, I SHOULD  
BE ABLE TO CATCH THE  
EXPRESS THAT'LL TAKE  
ME WITHIN A BLOCK  
OF THE DOCKS...



...OR NOT.

I CAN'T REMEMBER  
ANYTHING ABOUT  
LAST NIGHT.

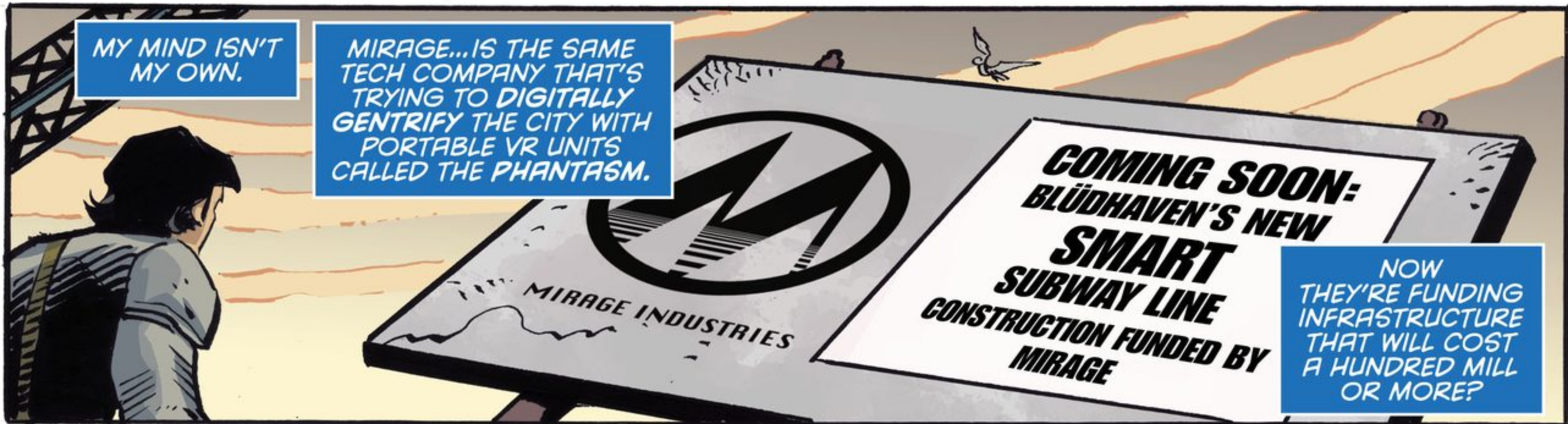
AND IN MY HURRY,  
I ALMOST FORGOT  
WHAT HAPPENED  
TO THIS TRACK.



A CYBER ATTACK  
THAT LEFT TWO PEOPLE  
DEAD AND A TRAIN  
DESTROYED.

MY MIND ISN'T  
MY OWN.

MIRAGE...IS THE SAME  
TECH COMPANY THAT'S  
TRYING TO DIGITALLY  
GENTRIFY THE CITY WITH  
PORTABLE VR UNITS  
CALLED THE PHANTASM.



NOW  
THEY'RE FUNDING  
INFRASTRUCTURE  
THAT WILL COST  
A HUNDRED MILL  
OR MORE?

YOU DON'T MAKE  
AN INVESTMENT  
LIKE THAT WITHOUT  
WANTING SOME-  
THING BACK.



AS NIGHTWING, I NEED TO  
FIGURE OUT WHO'S BEHIND  
MIRAGE AND WHAT THEY  
WANT FROM BLÜDHAVEN...





...AS SOON AS  
I FOLLOW THROUGH  
ON MY OBLIGATIONS  
AS DICK.

GRAYSON?

AS A MAN, AS A HERO,  
AS A TITAN, WITH ONE  
FOOT IN BLÜDHAVEN  
AND ANOTHER IN  
GOTHAM...

...IT SOMETIMES FEELS  
LIKE I'M CAUGHT  
BETWEEN CHANNELS  
AND DON'T QUITE  
KNOW WHERE TO  
FOCUS.

EVERYTHING  
OKAY?

BLÜDHAVEN DOCKS.

YEAH...YEAH,  
WILLEM, I'M GOOD.  
JUST A LITTLE *OFF*  
TODAY.

I LOST YOU  
FOR A MINUTE  
THERE.

DISTRACTED.  
APOLOGIES. I'M  
NOT *NORMALLY*  
LIKE THIS.

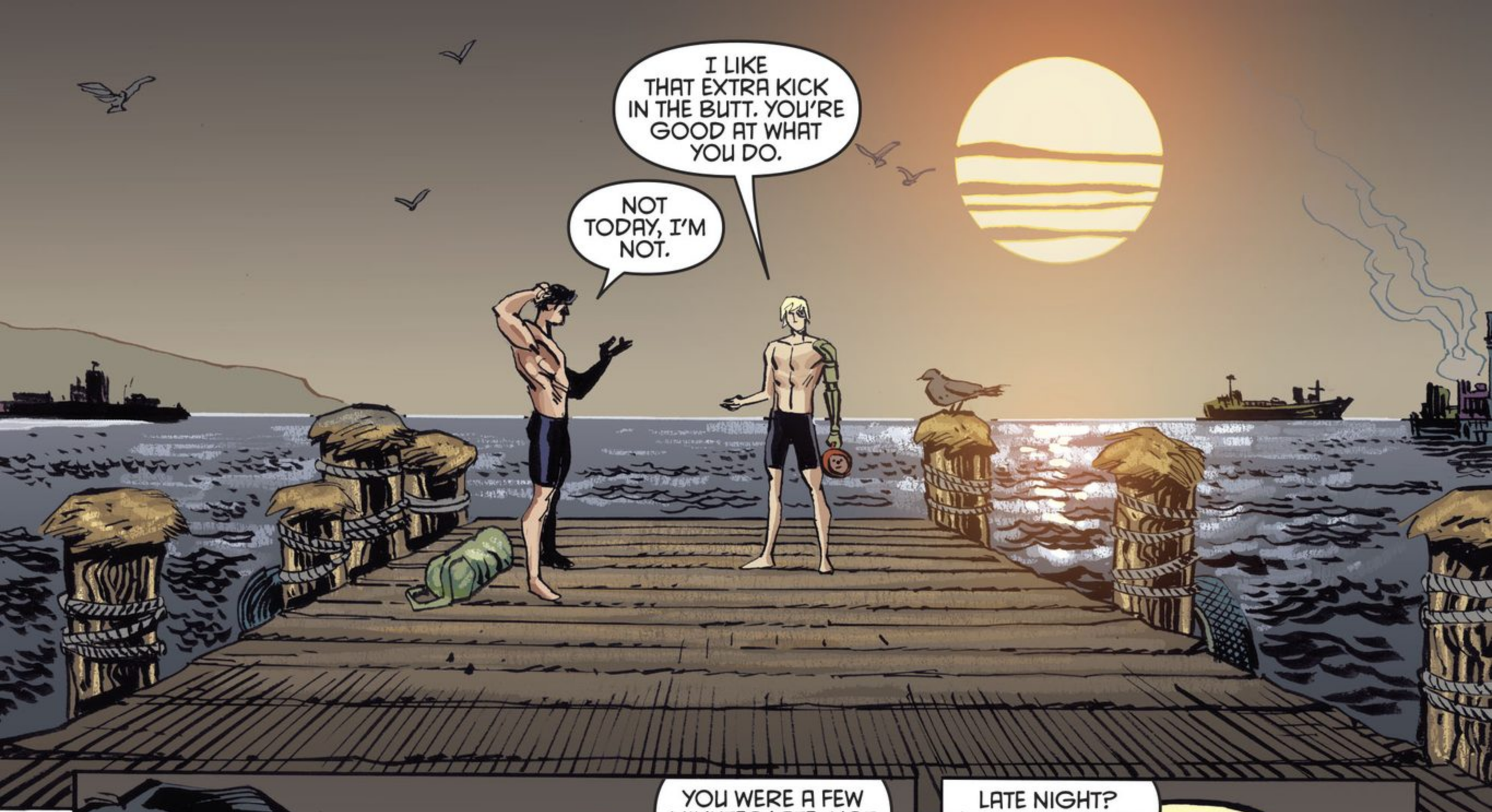
YOU WERE  
TELLING ME ABOUT  
THE KETTLEBELL?  
*CAPTAIN SMILEY  
PANTS*, I BELIEVE  
HIS NAME IS?

YES! SO YOU'RE  
GOING TO CHUCK  
OL' *CAPTAIN SMILEY  
PANTS* OFF THE DOCK.  
THEN YOU'RE GOING  
TO SAVE HIM BEFORE  
HE DROWNS.

DO YOU  
REALIZE, IN ALL OF  
YOUR WORKOUTS,  
WE'RE *SAVING*  
SOMEONE?

HELL YEAH  
WE ARE. IT GIVES YOU A  
SENSE OF *PURPOSE*. MAKES  
YOU IGNORE THE PAIN, WHEN  
YOU'RE ABLE TO IMAGINE  
SOMEONE ELSE HURTING  
*WORSE* THAN YOU.





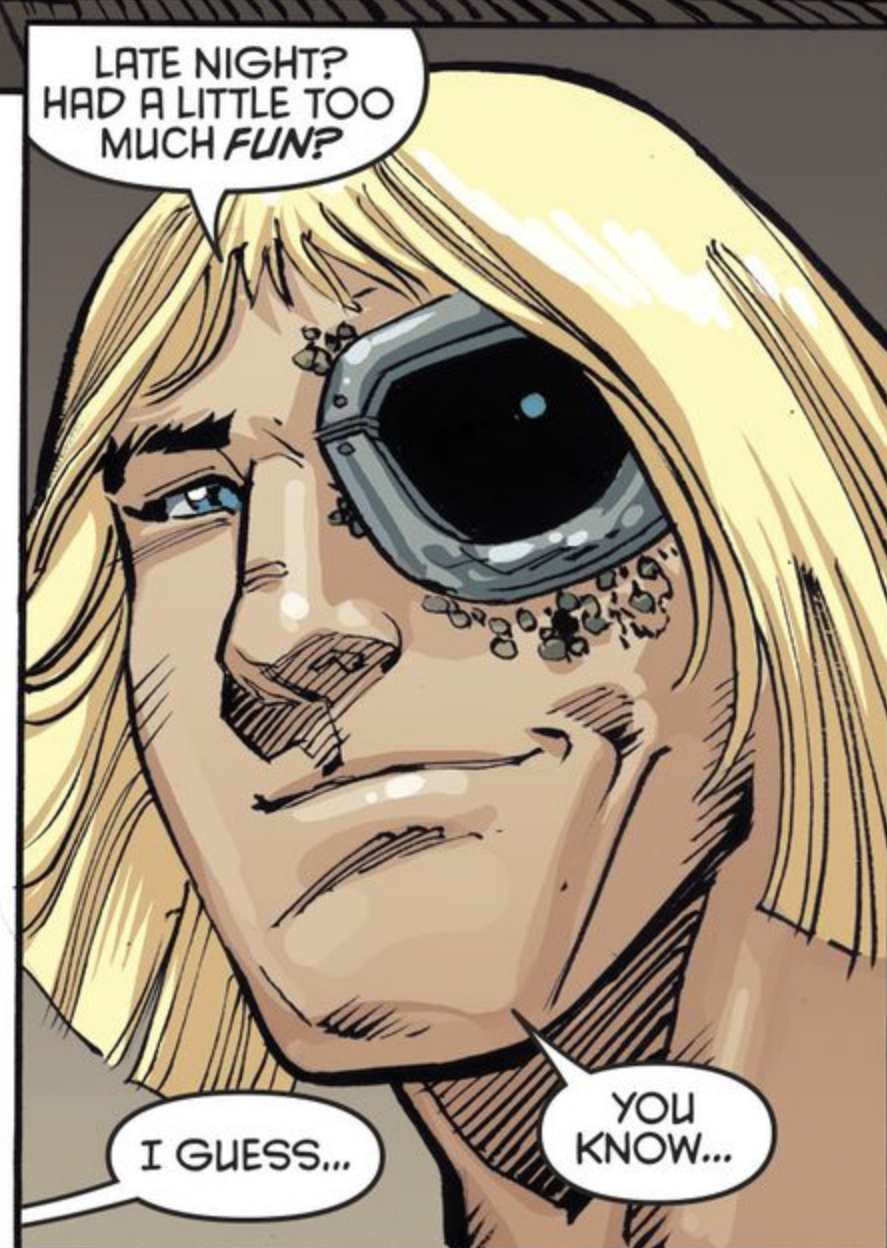
I LIKE THAT EXTRA KICK IN THE BUTT. YOU'RE GOOD AT WHAT YOU DO.

NOT TODAY, I'M NOT.



YOU WERE A FEW MINUTES LATE. NOT A PROBLEM, REALLY.

FOR ME, IT IS.



LATE NIGHT? HAD A LITTLE TOO MUCH *FUN*?

I GUESS...

YOU KNOW...



...I USED TO SWIM OUT HERE WHEN I WAS A KID. THIS WAS WHEN THE CHEMICAL FACTORY WAS STILL OPEN.

MY SKIN WOULD BURN FOR DAYS AFTER.

BUT IT WAS WORTH IT.



HOPEFULLY *SHE* WAS WORTH IT, TOO!



BLÜDHAVEN USED TO BE A WHALING TOWN, WHERE PEOPLE STAKED THEIR LIVING ON WHAT THEY COULDN'T SEE.

THEN IT BECAME A HAVEN FOR GAMBLING, WHERE PEOPLE TRUSTED THAT THEIR CARDS WOULD TURN UP ACES OR THAT THE SLOTS WOULD SPIN TRIPLE CHERRIES.

DRUGS ARE HIDDEN IN STORAGE CONTAINERS. MONEY IS TRADED IN BACK ROOMS.

ABANDONED WAREHOUSES ARE STOCKED WITH STOLEN GOODS.

SEEMS LIKE THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING SECRET AND DANGEROUS JUST OUT OF SIGHT.

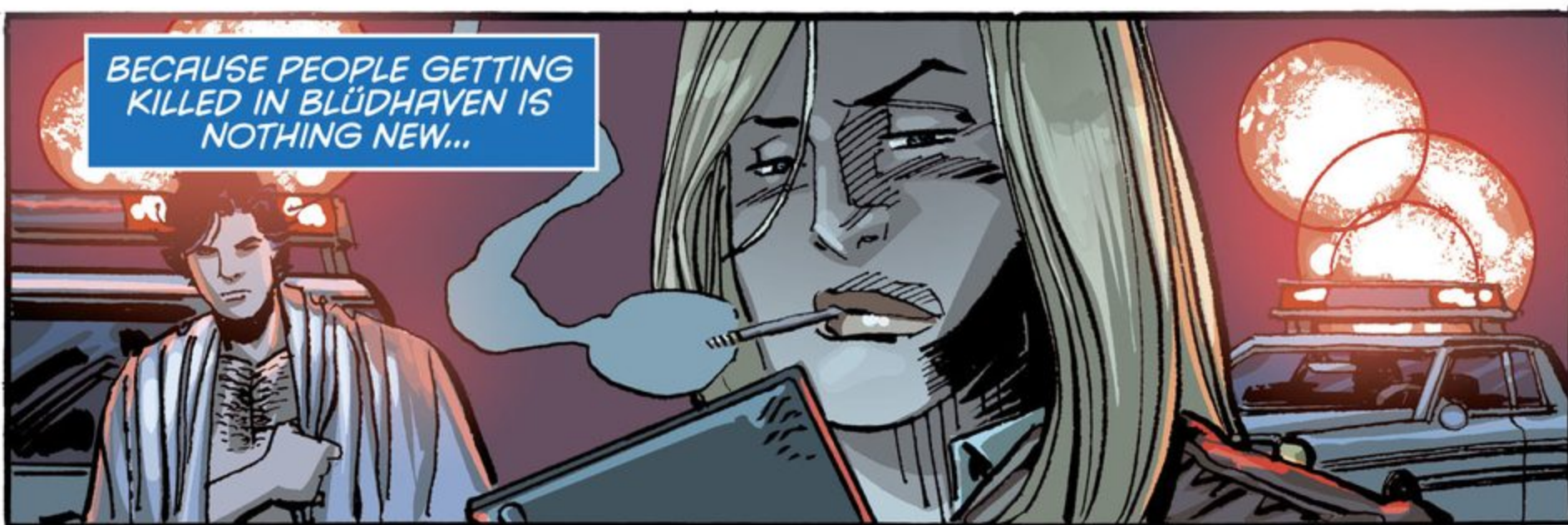


**AN HOUR LATER.**

WILLEM TAKES OFF AFTER GIVING HIS STATEMENT TO THE COPS, BUT I LINGER AT THE CRIME SCENE NEXT TO BPD'S SVOBODA-- AS BOTH A WITNESS AND A DETECTIVE.



BECAUSE PEOPLE GETTING KILLED IN BLÜDHAVEN IS NOTHING NEW...



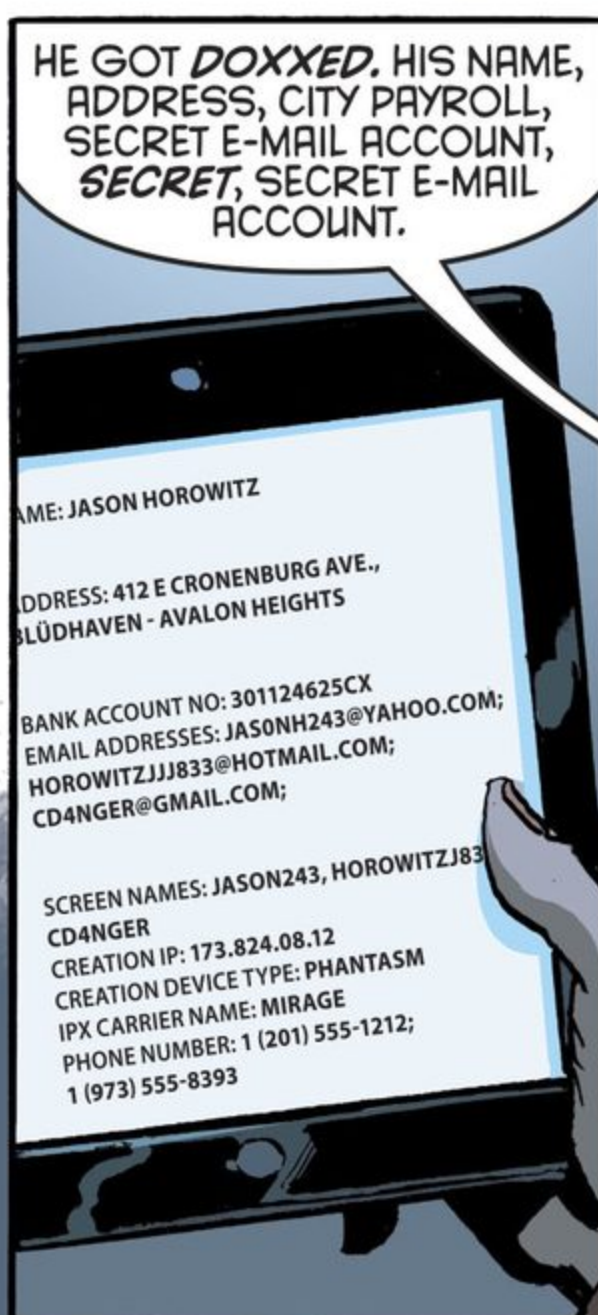
...BUT PEOPLE GETTING KILLED BY THE INTERNET IS.



THIS WAS ONE OF OUR NARCS. BEEN FEEDING US INTEL FROM THE STREET THE LAST FEW YEARS.



HE GOT **DOXXED**. HIS NAME, ADDRESS, CITY PAYROLL, SECRET E-MAIL ACCOUNT, **SECRET**, SECRET E-MAIL ACCOUNT.



PHOTOS WITH COPS, PHOTOS WITH CROOKS, PHOTOS WITH WHORES, PHOTOS WITH WIFE AND KIDS. IT'S ALL ONLINE.

MESSAGE BOARDS AND WIKIS GOT THIS GUY'S DIRTY LAUNDRY ON DISPLAY.



WHAT ARE **YOU** LOOKING AT, SIX-PACK McPRETTY?

GO HOME AND DO SOME CRUNCHES, DRINK A KALE SHAKE, WHATEVER. THIS IS **POLICE BUSINESS**...



...THIS CHUMP GOT A **VIRTUAL DEATH SENTENCE**, GUESS YOU COULD SAY.

NOBODY'S SAFE NO MORE. SWEAR TO GOD, EVERY E-MAIL'S DOSED WITH ANTHRAX. EVERY WEBSITE'S PACKED WITH C-4.





WHAT SVOBODA  
DIDN'T SEEM TO  
RECOGNIZE WAS THE  
LEVEL OF ACCESS.

WHOEVER DOXXED THE  
VIC HAD A COMPLETE  
AND TOTAL RECORD  
OF HIS LIFE.

THIS WAS MORE  
THAN A PHONE OR  
LAPTOP HACK.

67% NEURAL DOWNLOAD

THEY KNEW HIM  
INSIDE AND OUT.

KIND OF LIKE HOW A  
CERTAIN SOMEONE  
KNOWS ME.

I NEED HER HELP, BUT...  
IT FEELS WEIRD TO MAKE  
A BUSINESS CALL AFTER  
HOW WE LEFT THINGS  
THIS MORNING.

BATGIRL,  
DO YOU  
READ?



LITTLE  
BUSY RIGHT NOW,  
NIGHTWING.

HEY, UH...  
I'VE GOT AN INTEL  
REQUEST. YOU REMEMBER  
THE SUBWAY LINE THAT WAS  
DESTROYED AS A RESULT  
OF THAT CRYPTO-  
ATTACK?

IT'S NOW A FAST-TRACK  
CONSTRUCTION PROJECT  
FUNDED BY A TECH  
COMPANY CALLED  
MIRAGE.



YOU  
WANT ME TO DO  
A DEEP DIVE IN THE  
BIRDS OF PREY  
DATABASE?  
ON IT.

PRETTY  
PLEASE?



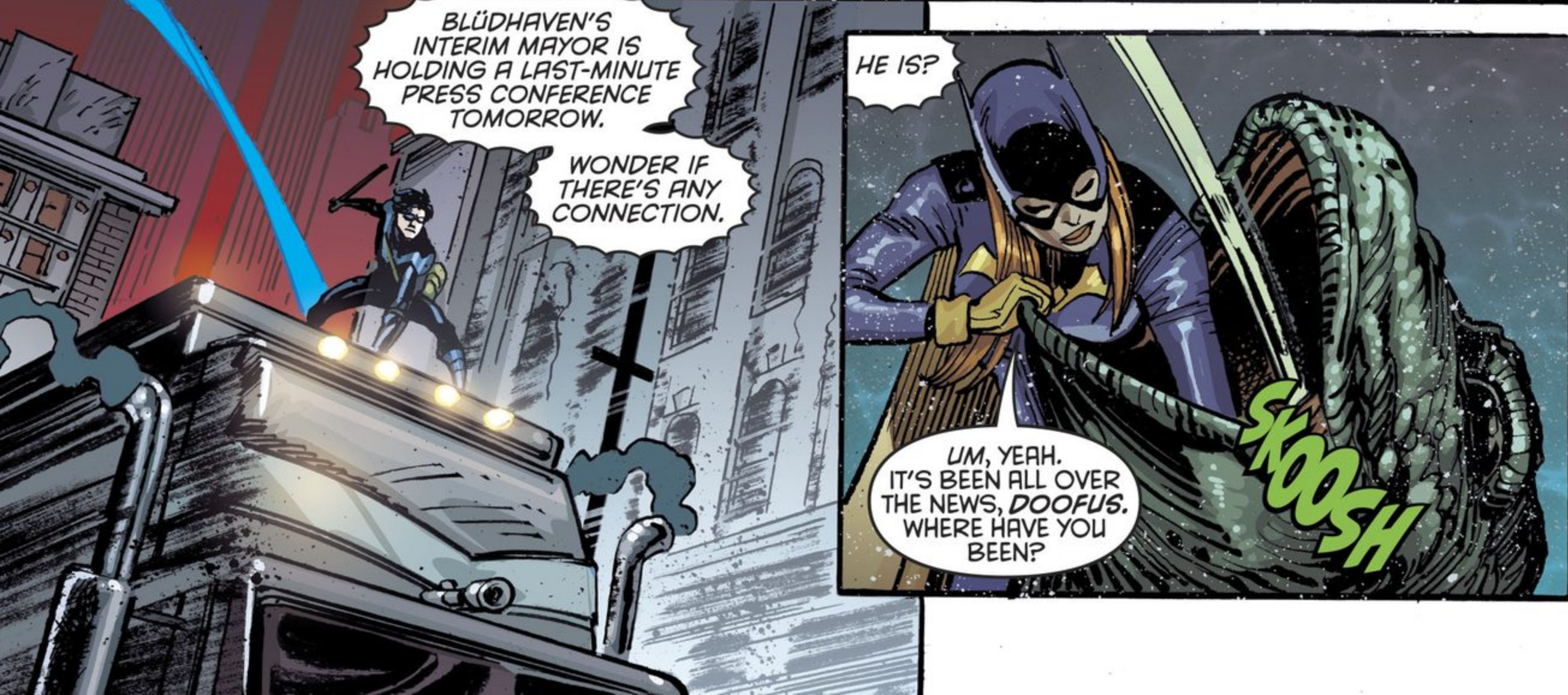
BLÜDHAVEN'S  
INTERIM MAYOR IS  
HOLDING A LAST-MINUTE  
PRESS CONFERENCE  
TOMORROW.

WONDER IF  
THERE'S ANY  
CONNECTION.

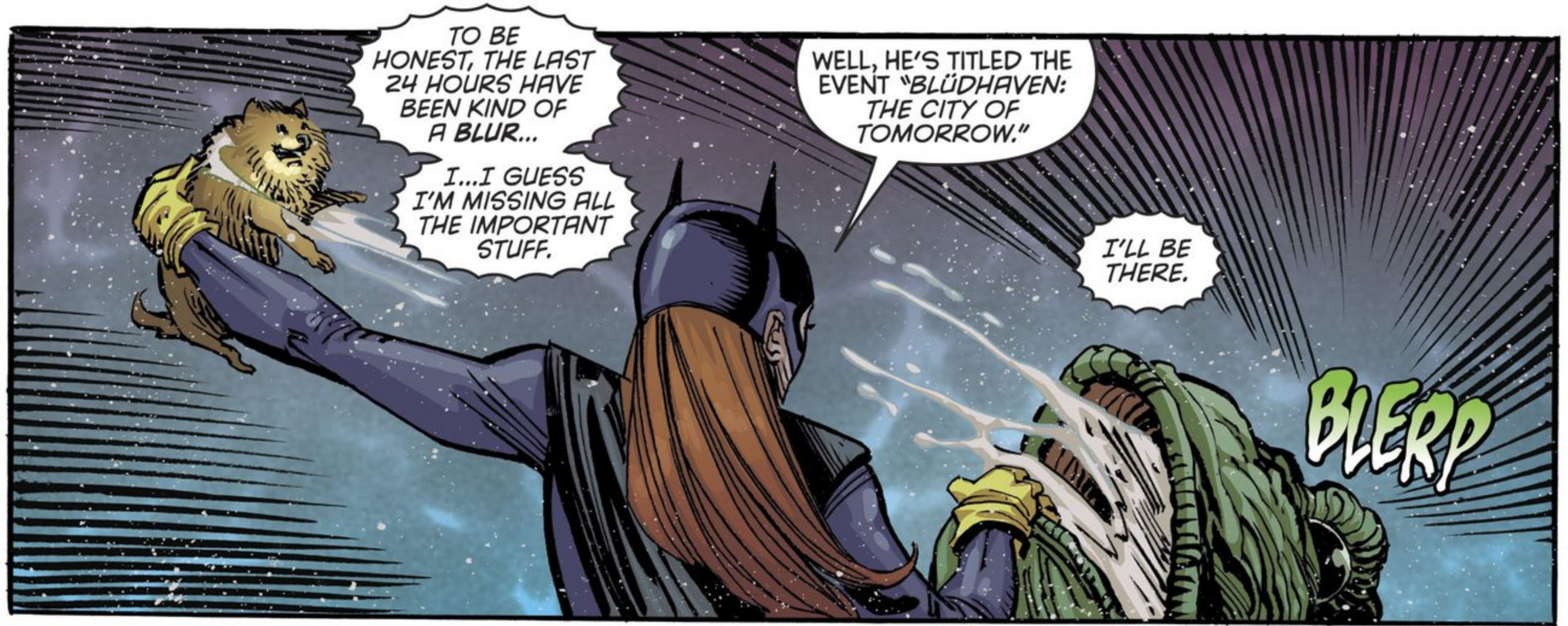
HE IS?

UM, YEAH.  
IT'S BEEN ALL OVER  
THE NEWS, DOOFUS.  
WHERE HAVE YOU  
BEEN?

SKOOOSH









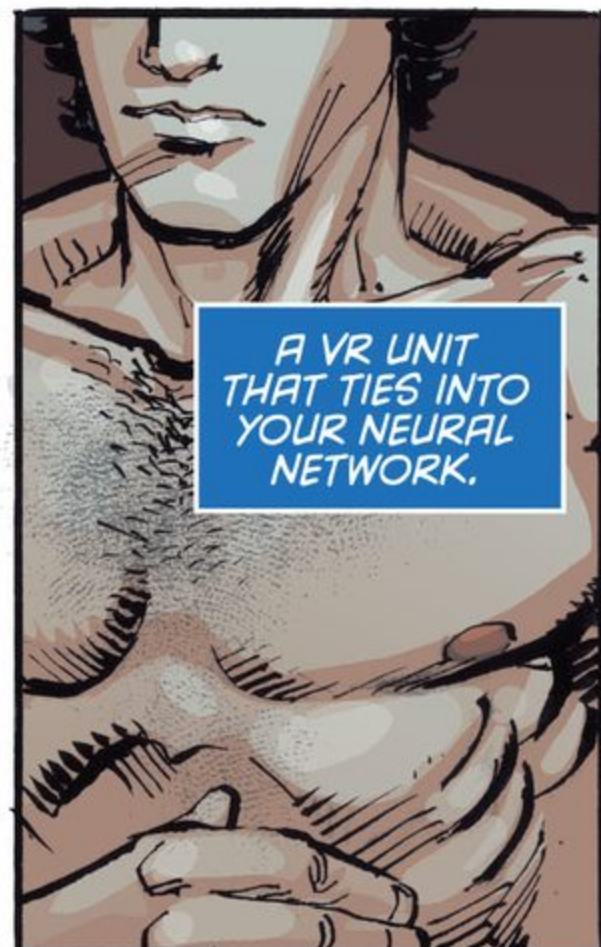


TURNING ON THE  
PHANTASM IS THE LAST  
THING I REMEMBER  
ABOUT YESTERDAY.

EVERYTHING AFTER  
THAT IS LIKE A  
BLINKING CURSOR  
ON A BLANK PAGE.



THE PHANTASM IS A VR  
UNIT THAT I'VE LINKED  
TO TWO MURDER VICS.



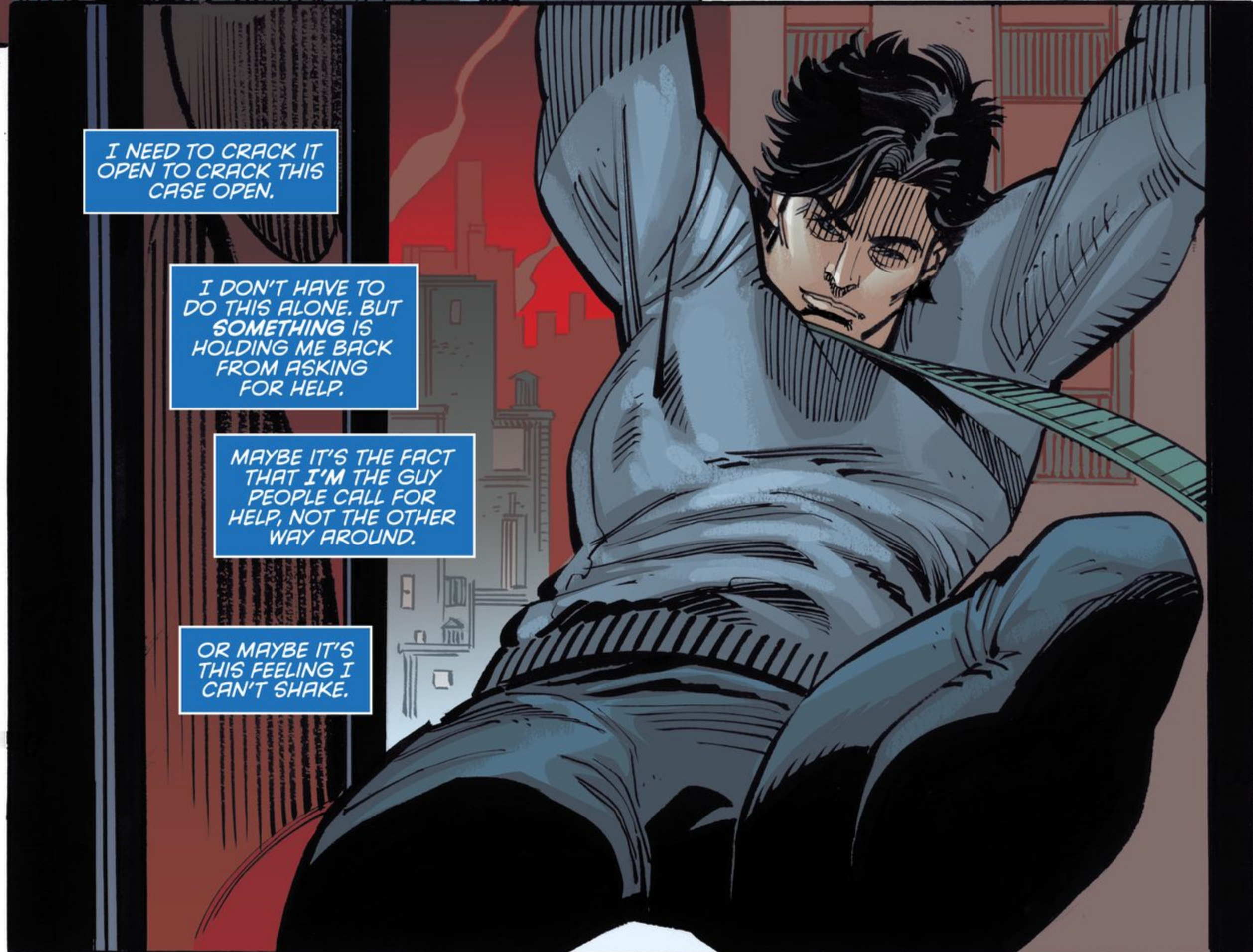
A VR UNIT  
THAT TIES INTO  
YOUR NEURAL  
NETWORK.



SO THAT YOU  
CAN FEEL YOUR  
HOLOGRAPHIC  
ENVIRONMENT.



IT'S WAITING  
FOR ME IN MY  
APARTMENT.



I NEED TO CRACK IT  
OPEN TO CRACK THIS  
CASE OPEN.

I DON'T HAVE TO  
DO THIS ALONE. BUT  
SOMETHING IS  
HOLDING ME BACK  
FROM ASKING  
FOR HELP.

MAYBE IT'S THE FACT  
THAT I'M THE GUY  
PEOPLE CALL FOR  
HELP, NOT THE OTHER  
WAY AROUND.

OR MAYBE IT'S  
THIS FEELING I  
CAN'T SHAKE.



THAT OLD HAIR-  
ON-THE-BACK-  
OF-YOUR-NECK  
SENSATION...



OH HEY!  
YOU'RE JUST  
IN TIME.



...THAT MEANS  
I'M BEING  
WATCHED.

YOUR KITCHEN IS  
PATHETICALLY  
EMPTY.



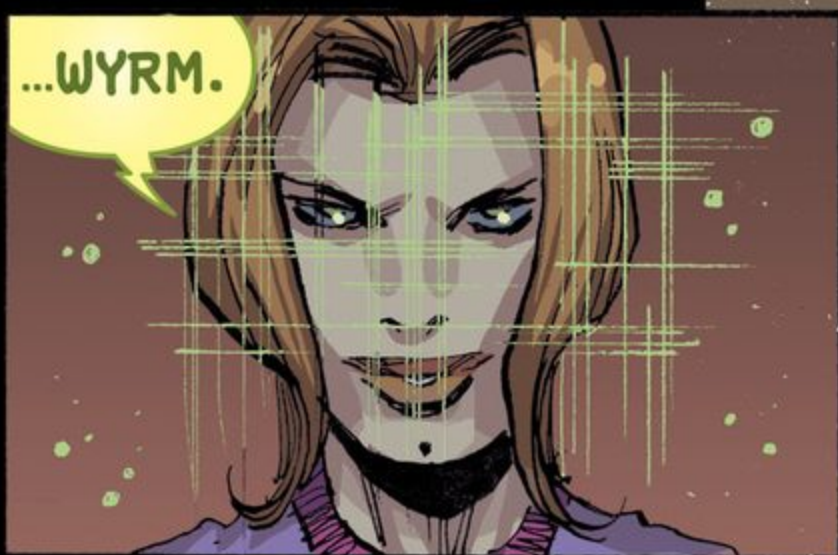
SO  
I PICKED UP  
EGG-AND-CHEESE  
SANDWICHES  
FROM THE  
BODEGA.

DREAMS CONTROL YOU.  
YOUR TEETH FALL OUT.  
YOUR CAT TALKS. YOU'RE  
LOST IN A FOREST WHERE  
THE TREES HAVE FACES.  
AND YOU BELIEVE.





...AND TAKE CONTROL OF IT.







THEN  
I GUESS THIS  
IS GOING TO  
HURT.

BUT HOW DO  
I FIGHT...

...SOME-  
THING  
I CAN'T  
PUNCH?







I COULD  
SMELL THOSE  
SANDWICHES.

I COULD FEEL  
BARBARA'S ARMS  
AROUND ME.

YOU'RE  
NOT *REAL*...

...WHAT  
DO YOU  
WANT FROM  
ME?



THE SAME  
THING I WANT  
FROM EVERY-  
ONE.

INFORMATION.



MOST  
MALWARE WORKS  
QUIETLY.

SPYING ON  
KEYSTROKES,  
SCANNING FOLDERS,  
COLLECTING  
DATA.



MOST  
PEOPLE HAVE  
LITTLE TO  
OFFER.

PEOPLE  
DO BUSINESS  
ONLINE.

THEY MAINTAIN  
FRIENDSHIPS  
ONLINE.

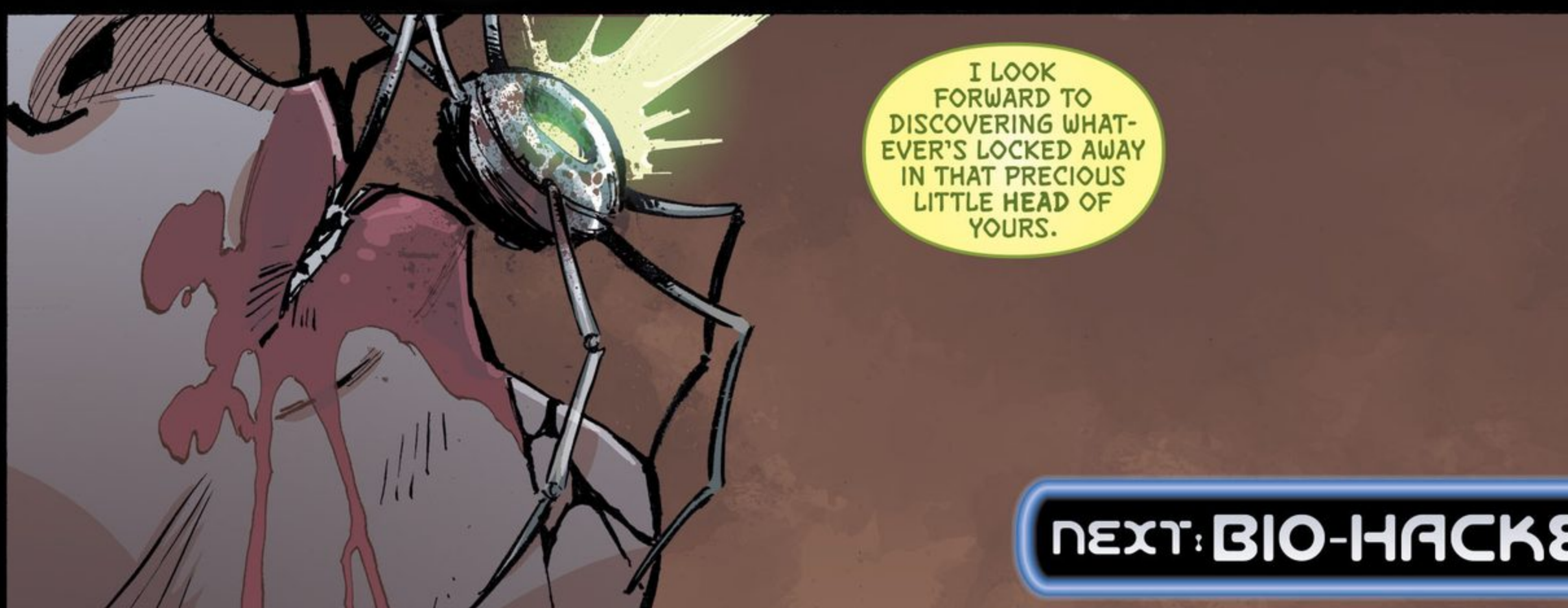
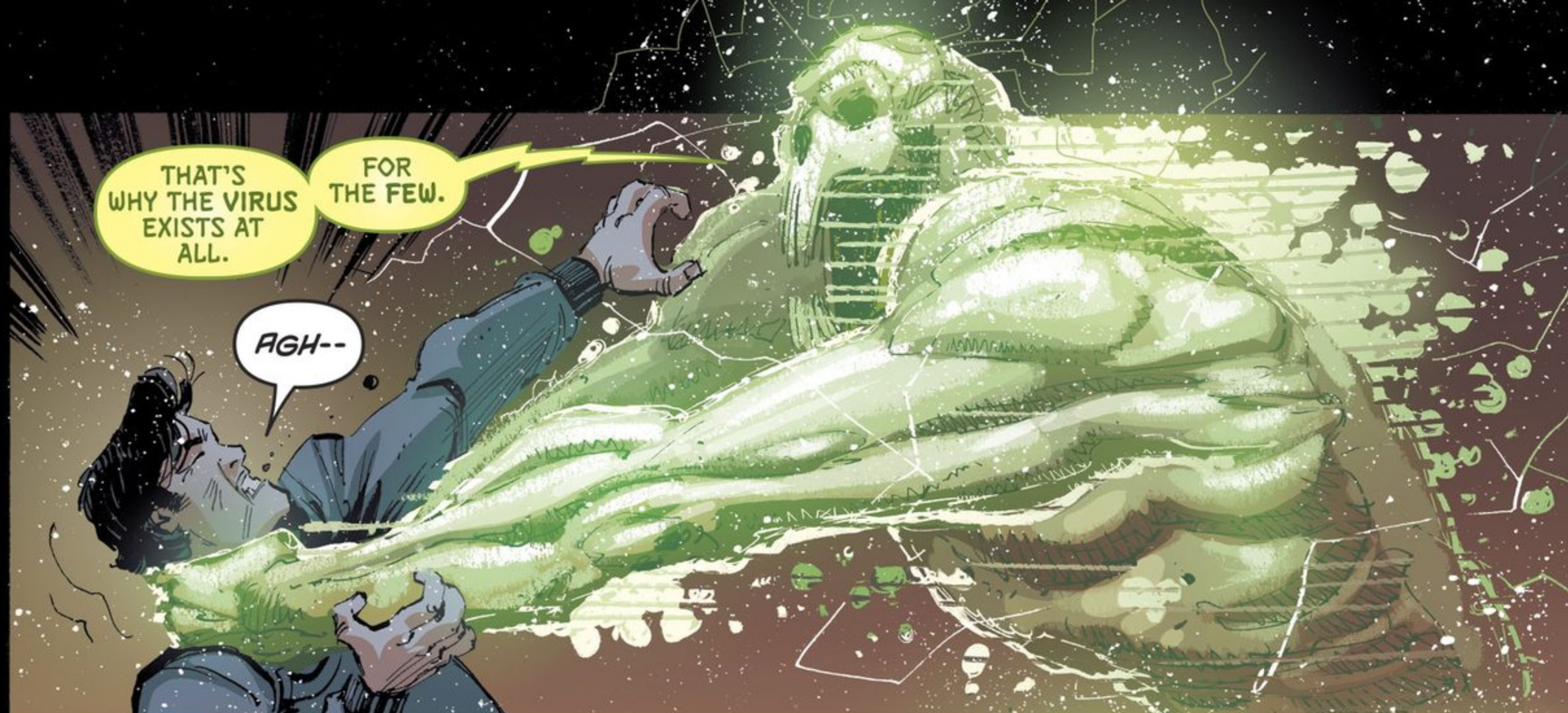


BUT A  
FEW PEOPLE  
HAVE A LOT.

THEY FALL IN  
LOVE ONLINE.

MAYBE THEY  
CAN DIE THERE,  
TOO.









# TEEN TITANS

NEW BLOOD.  
NEW MISSION.  
NEW ATTITUDE.

#20



TM & © DC Comics.

Written by

**ADAM GLASS**

Art by

**BERNARD CHANG**

**JULY**

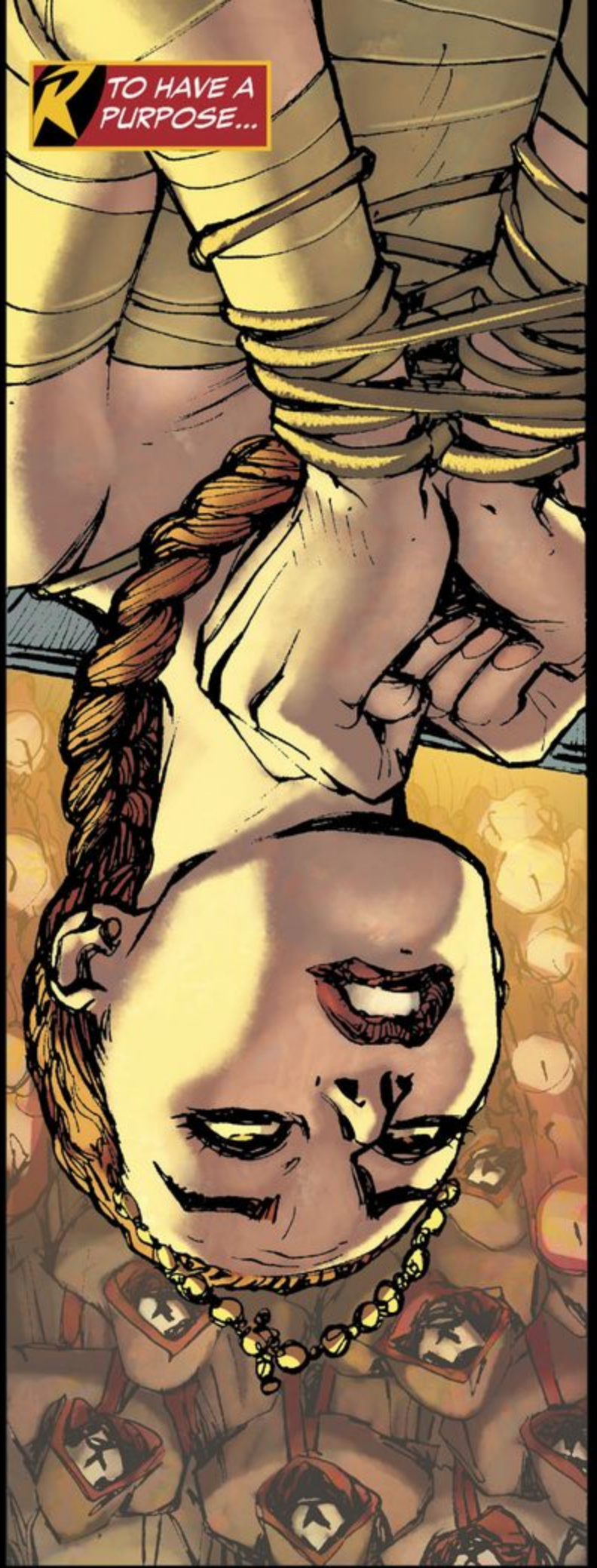
NEW JUSTICE



THE CHURCH OF BLOOD.

GALAHU GISH TIL, URUKU,  
SABATU INA URUKU,  
GIGIM XUL SHI!!!

TO HAVE A  
PURPOSE...



...TO COMMIT YOUR  
LIFE TO SOMETHING  
BIGGER THAN  
YOURSELF...



...IS HONORABLE.

BUT ONLY A  
FOOL FOLLOWS  
BLINDLY.



BROTHER BLOOD  
THANKS YOU FOR  
YOUR SACRIFICE,  
LITTLE ONE--



THWUNK





**CRUSH**  
Daughter of Lobo

**RED ARROW**  
Ex-Assassin

**ROUNDHOUSE**  
Human Wrecking Ball

**KID FLASH**  
Fastest Kid Alive

**DJINN**  
4000-Year-Old Genie

**ROBIN**  
Son of Batman

TEEN  
TITANS!

SEEK AND  
DESTROY!

TAKE US, FOR EXAMPLE.  
THE NEXT GENERATION  
OF HEROES.

TOLD TO FOLLOW AN  
OUTDATED CODE OF  
RULES THAT WAS MADE  
UP IN THE BEGINNING...

...BY MY FATHER  
AND HIS BOY SCOUT  
ALIEN BUDDY.

DC COMICS PROUDLY PRESENTS...

TEEN TITANS

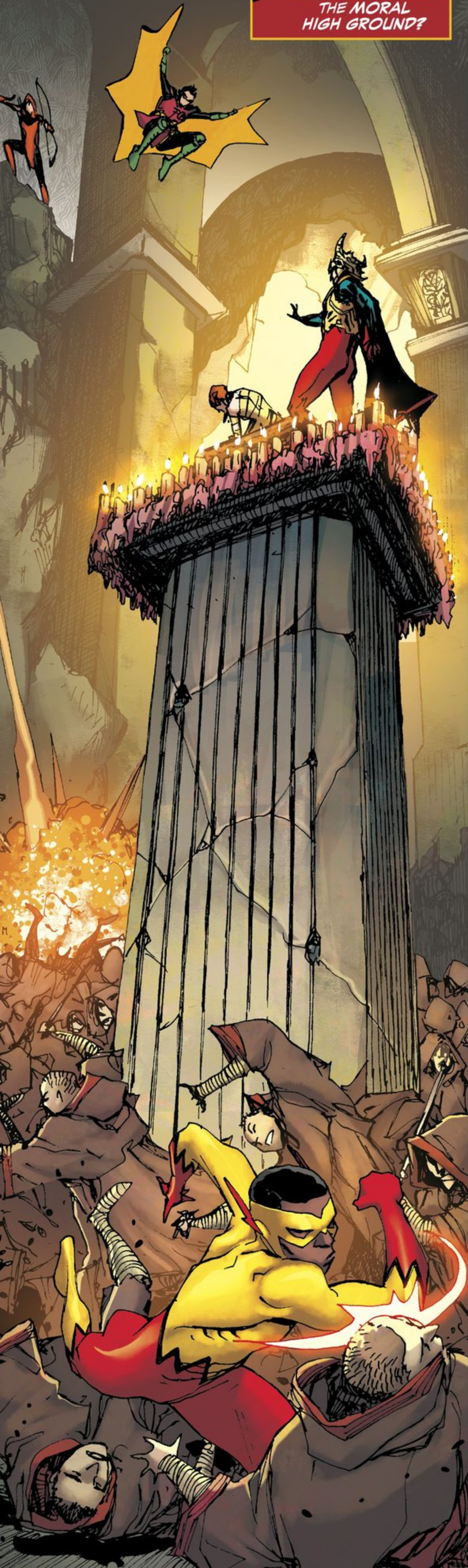
SET IT OFF

PART  
ONE

ADAM GLASS writer  
BERNARD CHANG artist  
MARCELO MAIOLLO colorist  
ROB LEIGH letterer  
ANDREA SHEA assistant editor  
ALEX ANTONI editor  
BRIAN CUNNINGHAM group editor



**R** BUT WHO SAYS THE ONLY WAY TO FIGHT CRIME IS BY TAKING THE MORAL HIGH GROUND?



THINGS AREN'T SO BLACK AND WHITE ANYMORE.



THE WORLD HAS CHANGED.



AND SO MUST WE.



SO I STARTED A NEW TEAM.



AND THE FIRST PERSON I APPROACHED WAS...



**R** ...AN OLD ALLY.

THE BIG GUYS  
AREN'T GOING TO  
LIKE THAT IDEA.

WHO  
CARES?

WHY  
YOU THROWING  
SO MUCH SHADE  
AT THE LEAGUE,  
DAMIAN?

BECAUSE  
THEY'RE INSUFFICIENT,  
COMPLACENT AND NEED  
AN UPDATE.

BUT SINCE  
THEY'LL NEVER  
CHANGE...  
**WE WILL.**

FLASH WOULD  
SAY WE'RE JUST  
**TOO YOUNG** TO FULLY  
UNDERSTAND THE  
COMPLEXITIES OF  
THE SITUATION.

AND WHAT DO  
**YOU** HAVE TO SAY,  
"WALLY TWO"?

IT'S  
**WALLACE.**

AND I THINK  
WE CAN PUSH THE  
ENVELOPE...WITHIN  
REASON.

DO I HAVE A  
SPEEDSTER ON MY  
TEAM OR NOT?

I NEED SOME  
TIME TO THINK  
ABOUT IT.

OKAY, I DID.  
I'M IN.

AND THANKS  
FOR ASKING  
THIS TIME.

BUT  
WARNING, I'M GONNA  
NEED MORE OF A SAY THIS  
GO-AROUND.

YOU'VE GOT  
SOMETHING IN  
MIND?

SOMEONE.  
YOU EVER WATCH  
**YOUTUBE?**

KID FLASH'S POTENTIAL IS  
LIMITLESS. IF HE LISTENS  
TO ME, I'LL MAKE HIM  
THE MOST DANGEROUS  
SPEEDSTER THERE EVER WAS.



YO, ROBIN,  
A LOT OF THESE CHURCH  
MEMBERS ARE JUST  
CONFUSED KIDS.

DOESN'T MEAN  
THAT THEY'RE NOT  
DANGEROUS.

I FEEL THAT,  
BUT IT DOESN'T MAKE  
THEM HARDCORE  
CRIMINALS EITHER.

YOUR  
POINT?

LET'S JUST GET  
BROTHER BLOOD  
ASAP AND ROLL.

SMILE  
FOR THE  
CAMERA.

HASHTAG  
SAVING THE WORLD...  
HASHTAG MAD LOVE TO ALL  
MY PEEPS AND HATERS, TOO.  
HASHTAG HERO GAM--

HEY!

YO! WHAT'S  
YOUR PROBLEM,  
HUNGER  
GAMES?





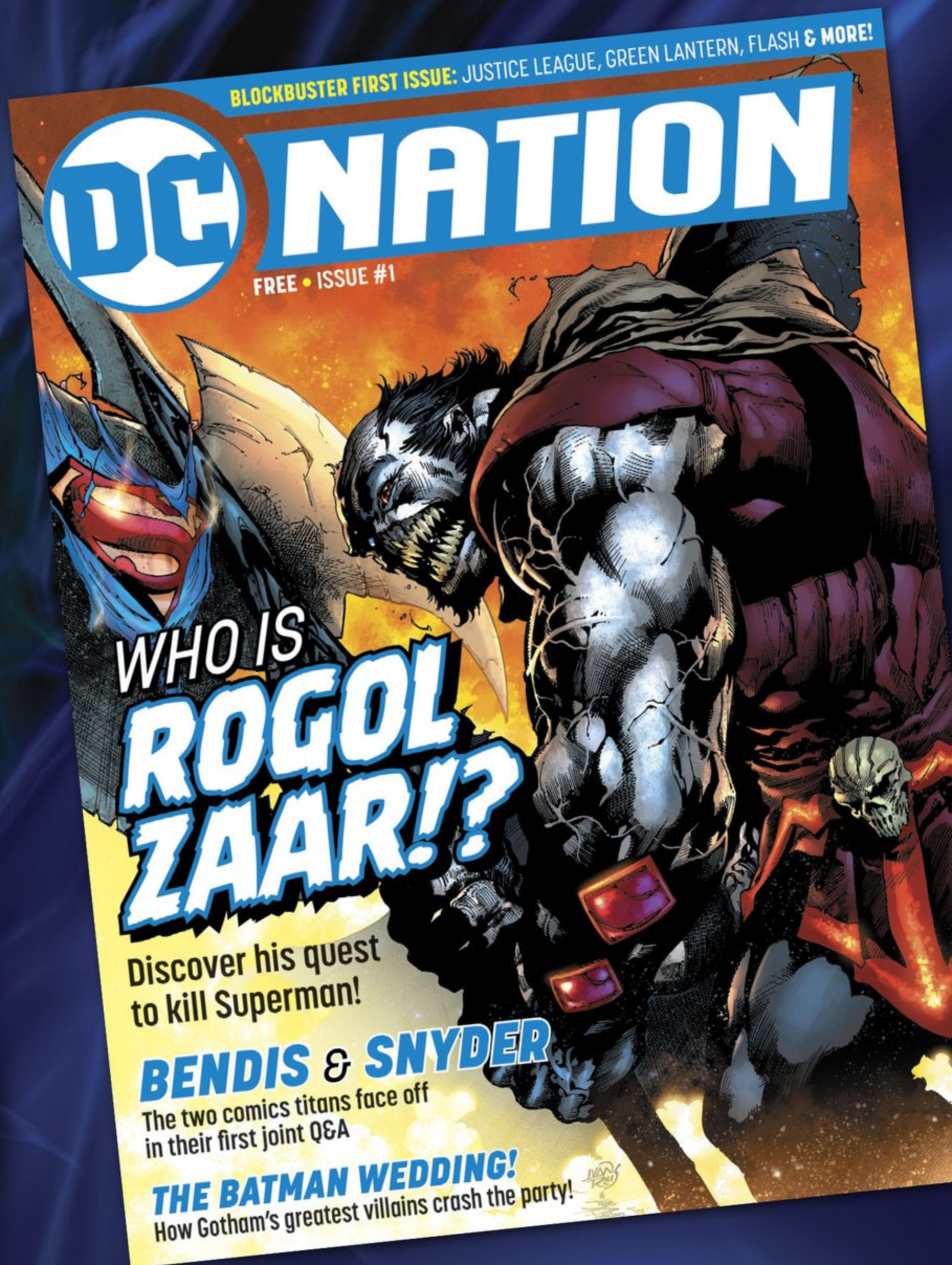
# NATION

The monthly **FREE** magazine that puts an entire superhero universe in your hands

Inside you'll find behind-the-scenes stories, exclusive content and tutorials on breaking into comics.

- Writers Brian Michael Bendis and Scott Snyder sit down for their first joint Q&A on the future of the DC Universe.
- Superstar artist Bryan Hitch teaches you to draw Hawkman.
- The legendary Jim Lee shares his designs for Rogol Zaar, a new villain in **THE MAN OF STEEL**.

ALL THIS AND MORE!  
**DC NATION #1**  
 AVAILABLE NOW FROM  
 YOUR LOCAL COMIC  
 BOOK RETAILER!



DC COMICS BOB HARRAS Senior VP – Editor-in-Chief, DC Comics PAT McCALLUM Executive Editor, DC Comics DIANE NELSON President DAN DiDIO Publisher JIM LEE Publisher GEOFF JOHNS President & Chief Creative Officer AMIT DESAI Executive VP – Business & Marketing Strategy, Direct to Consumer & Global Franchise Management SAM ADES Senior VP & General Manager, Digital Services BOBBIE CHASE VP & Executive Editor, Young Reader & Talent Development MARK CHIARELLO Senior VP – Art, Design & Collected Editions JOHN CUNNINGHAM Senior VP – Sales & Trade Marketing ANNE DePIES Senior VP – Business Strategy, Finance & Administration DON FALLETTI VP – Manufacturing Operations LAWRENCE GANEM VP – Editorial Administration & Talent Relations ALISON GILL Senior VP – Manufacturing & Operations HANK KANALZ Senior VP – Editorial Strategy & Administration JAY KOGAN VP – Legal Affairs JACK MAHAN VP – Business Affairs NICK J. NAPOLITANO VP – Manufacturing Administration EDDIE SCANNELL VP – Consumer Marketing COURTNEY SIMMONS Senior VP – Publicity & Communications JIM (SKI) SOKOLOWSKI VP – Comic Book Specialty Sales & Trade Marketing NANCY SPEARS VP – Mass, Book, Digital Sales & Trade Marketing MICHELE R. WELLS VP – Content Strategy

NIGHTWING 45, August, 2018. Published monthly by DC Comics, 2900 W. Alameda Avenue, Burbank, CA 91505. GST # is R125921072. Copyright © 2018 DC Comics. All Rights Reserved. All characters featured in this issue, the distinctive likenesses thereof and related elements are trademarks of DC Comics. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. DC Comics does not read or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories or artwork. For Advertising and Custom Publishing contact [dccomicsadvertising@dccomics.com](mailto:dccomicsadvertising@dccomics.com). For details on DC Comics Ratings, visit [dccomics.com/go/ratings](http://dccomics.com/go/ratings).